

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mitsuharu MIWA et al.)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)	
Application No.: NEW)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Filed: May 19, 2006)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
For: LYMPH NODE DETECTING APPARATUS)	

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Customer Window Mail Stop: ☒ New Application ☐ Amendment ☐ AF ☐ Issue Fee
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

☒ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the undersigned's knowledge, this IDS is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after filing an RCE under § 1.114, or within three months of the application filing date.

☐ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This IDS is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or another action that closes prosecution in the application.

- ☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in § 1.17(p) is included herein; or
- ☐ Applicant submits that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

☐ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This IDS is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(c) but before payment of the issue fee.

- ☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in § 1.17(p) is included herein; and
- ☐ Applicant submits that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

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☐ **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i):** Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(i), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This IDS is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(d). Applicant requests that the IDS be placed in the file.

☒ A search report or other listing of documents from a counterpart, related, or other application dated December 21, 2004 and having documents cited thereon is attached for the Examiner's consideration. Any of these documents not previously cited, and any additional documents are listed on the PTO Form 1449.

☒ Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. As for any document listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 that is in a language other than English, relevance can be understood from an enclosed English abstract or at least partial translation or from mention in the specification or in a search report for a corresponding application.

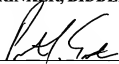
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that any of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this Application, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required and including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP


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Dated: May 19, 2006

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket No.: 46884-5479	Serial No.: NEW
PTO Form 1449	Applicants Mitsuharu MIWA et al.	Page 1 of 1
	Filing Date: May 19, 2006	Group Art Unit: Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	6,631,286	10/07/2003	Pfeiffer et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES	NO
9-154812	06/17/1997	Japan			Abstract	
2810715	07/31/1998	Japan			Abstract	
2001-78205	03/23/2001	Japan			Abstract	
WO 01/22870	04/05/2001	PCT				
2001-299676	10/30/2001	Japan			Abstract	
2002-95663	04/02/2002	Japan			Abstract	
2002-291682	10/08/2002	Japan			Abstract	
2003-66145	03/05/2003	Japan			Abstract	
2003-190103	07/08/2003	Japan			Abstract	
WO 03/077741	09/25/2003	PCT				
WO 2004/006816	01/22/2004	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)

Examiner /Joel Brutus/	Date Considered 04/04/2009
Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	